

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



CONTACT INFORMATION:

Lynn Merenda

Hillsborough County Metropolitan Planning Organization

601 E. Kennedy, 18th Floor, Tampa, FL 33602

Switchboard: 813.272.5940 Direct Dial: 813.273.3774 x342 Fax: 813.272.6258

Email Address: merendal@plancom.org

www.mpotransit.org

www.hillsboroughmpo.org

***MPO Transit Study* Receives Award of Excellence**

Tampa, FL, April 8, 2008 – The ***MPO Transit Study*** was honored at the Planning Commission’s 26th Annual Community Design Awards last Thursday evening. A panel of independent judges from outside of Hillsborough County gave an Award of Excellence in the Master Planning & Urban Design category to the Hillsborough County Metropolitan Organization (MPO), Renaissance Planning Group and Parsons Brinkerhoff. The ***Transit Concept for 2050*** resulted from the MPO’s year-long study that engaged community leaders, technical experts, citizens and other stakeholders in every phase of the planning process.

“Exploring the need for better public transit and how it can support sustainable communities and smart growth in Hillsborough County was the vision for the ***MPO Transit Study***,” said Temple Terrace Mayor Joe Affronti, MPO Chair. “We are honored to be recognized among all of these outstanding Community Design Award recipients.” Joining Mayor Affronti on the Tampa Theatre stage to receive the award were fellow MPO Board members Plant City Mayor Rick Lott, Tampa Councilwoman Mary Mulhern, and MPO Executive Director Lucie Ayer, AICP. “Our MPO wants to be at the forefront, as our local and regional partners make decisions on creating a better transit future for Hillsborough County,” said Ms. Ayer.

The Hillsborough County MPO is a transportation policy board comprised of representatives from local governments and transportation agencies focusing on transportation planning and programming decisions that support the mobility needs and economic development of Tampa, Temple Terrace, Plant City and Hillsborough County.



- END -